



**City of Los Angeles  
WATERSHED PROTECTION DIVISION  
ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT & EMERGENCY RESPONSE UNIT**

**CASE #25194  
"OPERATION HEALTHY STREETS"  
SKID ROW REPORT**

**Wednesday, January 26, 2016**

**MAINTENANCE AND ASSESSMENT PHASE  
"SPOT CLEANING"**





**CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
WATERSHED PROTECTION DIVISION  
COMPLAINT INSPECTION REPORT**



**DATE:** January, 27<sup>th</sup>, 2015

**CASE ID NUMBER:** 25194

**INCIDENT LOCATION:** DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES, SKID ROW AREA

**LEAD INSPECTOR:** Chin Teo

**SUBJ:** SKID ROW CLEANUP - "OPERATION HEALTHY STREETS"

**REPORT:**

**COMPLAINT**

The City of Los Angeles received a report, dated May 21, 2012, from the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health directing the City to address public health issues in the Skid Row area of Downtown Los Angeles. The report stated that there was an immediate threat to public health because of the presence of feces and urine on the sidewalks, public areas, and two storm drain catch basins.

**MITIGATION/ACTION PLAN**

On Wednesday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2016, Watershed Protection Division (WPD) Environmental Compliance Inspectors Chin Teo and Jose Arambulo (team 2) were dispatched to the Skid Row area of Downtown Los Angeles to address illegal dumping and public health concerns in the public right-of-way. Each "Sanitation Team" consisted of two WPD Officers, LAPD two cruisers, one remediation contractor team (2 employees) from Clean Harbors Environmental Services.

At approximately 0800 hours at Wall and 6<sup>th</sup> Street, WPD Inspector Teo accompanied LAPD officers and Clean Harbors Environmental Services regarding the implementation of clean-up measures in response to the LA County Public Health report. All immediate public health threats, which would be observed, would be removed immediately. The clean-up measures included the removal of all illegally-dumped, solid waste that could negatively affect public health and the storm drain system, including all hypodermic needles, feces, urine, and other potentially hazardous materials or waste.

**Summary of the protocol (OPERATION HEALTHY STREETS)**

*Maintenance & Assessments Phase "Spot cleaning" Operations* were to be conducted in the Skid Row area of Downtown Los Angeles. WPD Inspectors shall inspect the



public right-of-ways to search for abandoned items and substances and to make a determination as to whether the item or substance posed a health hazard. Once the hazards are determined by WPD the Bureau of Sanitation Teams then followed by removing all hypodermic needles/sharps, feces, urine, and any potentially hazardous materials/waste in the public right-of-way. Additionally the Bureau of Street Services will be removing any solid waste located in the public right-of-way. The LAPD will provide security for the entire spot cleaning operations.

The goal for today's operations was to perform "Spot cleaning" in skid row, Team 1 will perform spot cleaning on all the east west streets and Team 2 will perform the North South street and WCSD crew will pressure wash all affected areas and CleanHarbors will sanitized and pick up feces on public right of way.

At approximately 0900 hours, Team 2 started the spot cleaning operations from 5<sup>th</sup> Street and San Julian and worked south-bound on San Julian toward 7<sup>th</sup> Street and moves over to the next several streets and ended the operations on Stanford Street.

### **EVIDENCE/SAMPLES**

On Wednesday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2016, there were approximately seventeen (17) photographs taken by WPD Inspector Teo documenting the clean-up.

The following hazardous materials were recovered from the spot cleaning operations

- Syringes 17
- Razors 9
- Urine bottle 1
- Vomit 1
- Urine spots 41
- Feces spots 32

All hazardous wastes picked up from the spot cleaning operations were transported though manifest number 008296375 FLE dated 1/27/2016.







Figure 1. Skid Row Area Map from IAP

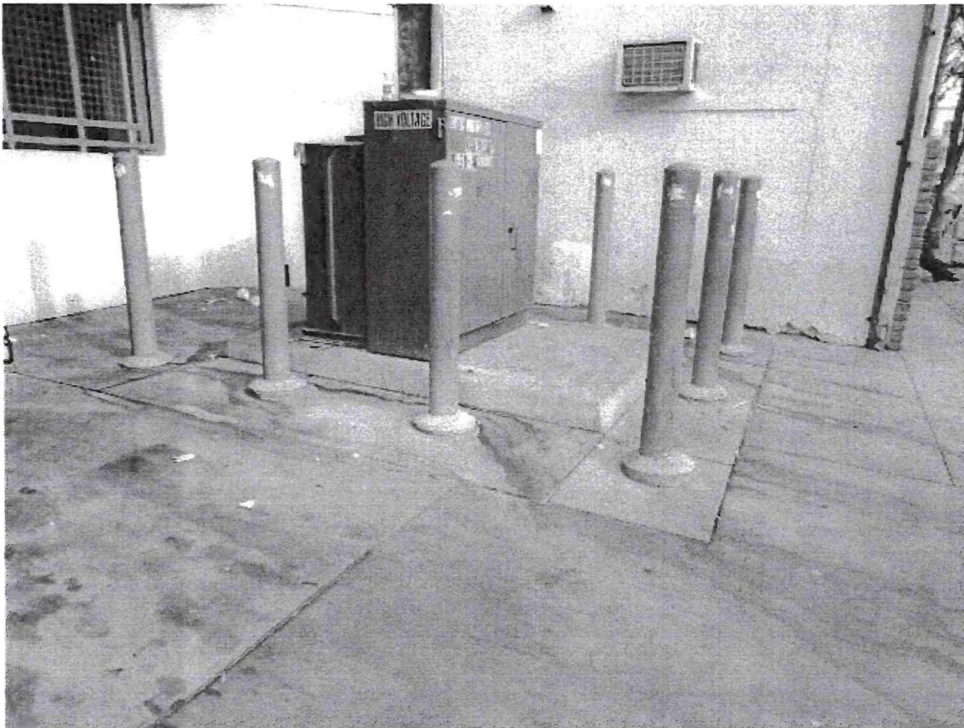


Figure 2.

Photograph of the area that was pressure washed by WCSD crew.





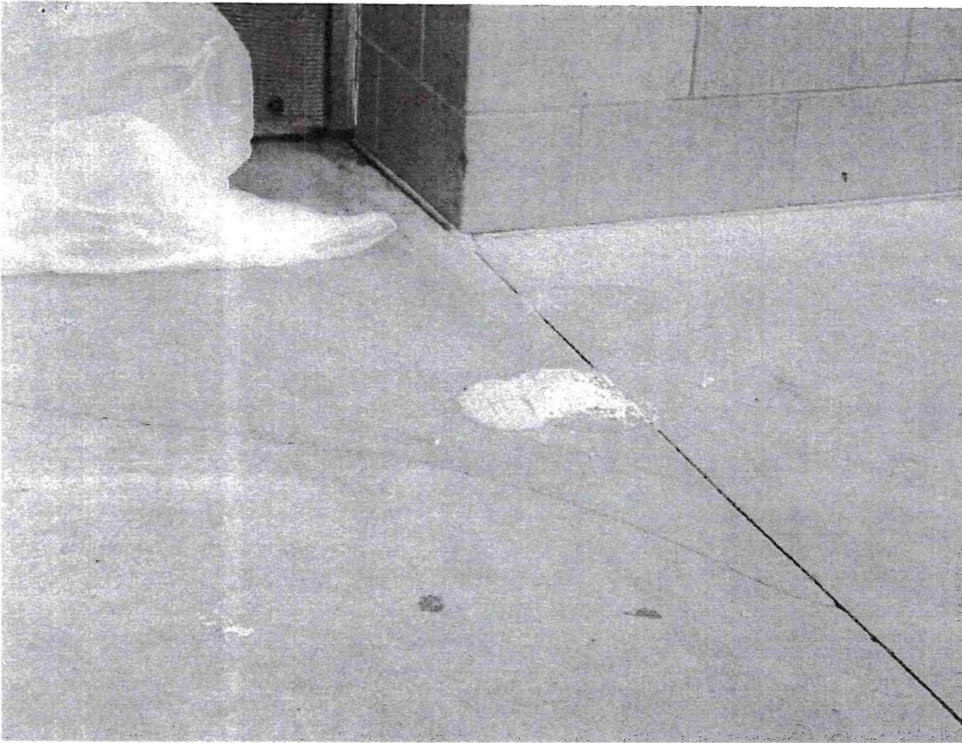


Figure 3.

Photograph of vomit on public right of way.

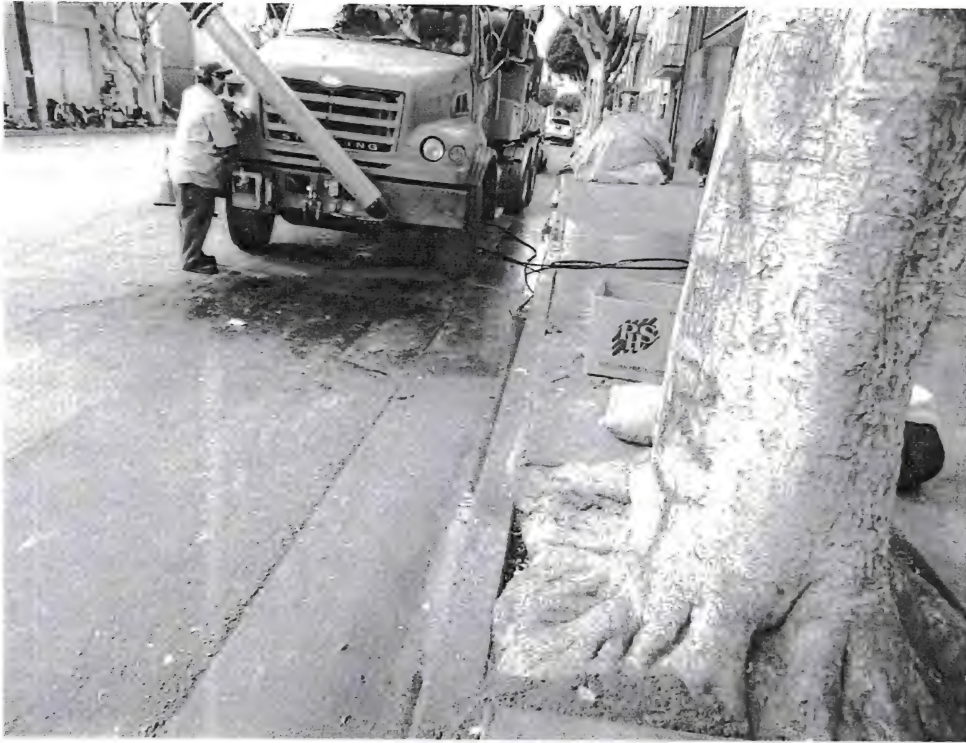


Figure 4.

Hypodermic needle found in street gutter.







**Figure 5.**

WCSD crew was photographed sucking up low lying area that contained foul smelling water.



**Figure 6.**

Alley on San Pedro that needed to be pressure washed and sanitized.







Figure7.

Photograph was taken of the same alley after it had been pressure washed and sanitized.



Figure 8.

Photograph was taken in a clogged catch basin on Crocker/6<sup>th</sup> Street (NE corner) that needed cleaning.



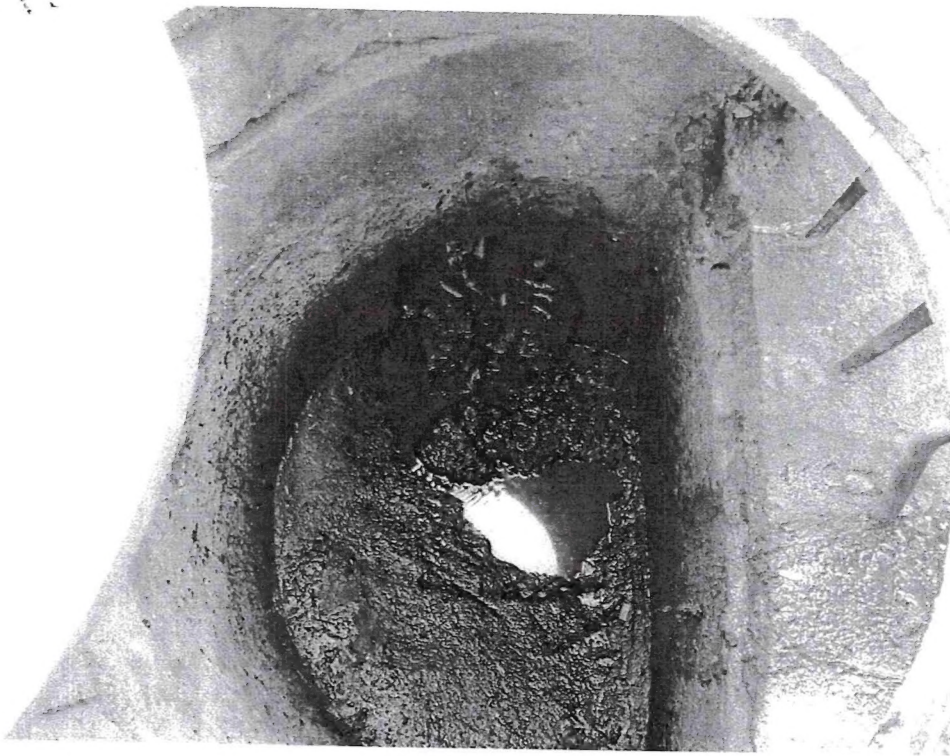


Figure 9.  
Photograph of the  
above catch basin  
after completion of  
clean up.



Figure 10.  
Photograph was taken  
of a urine bottle left on  
the street gutter.









Figure 11.

Photograph was taken of feces on public right of way.

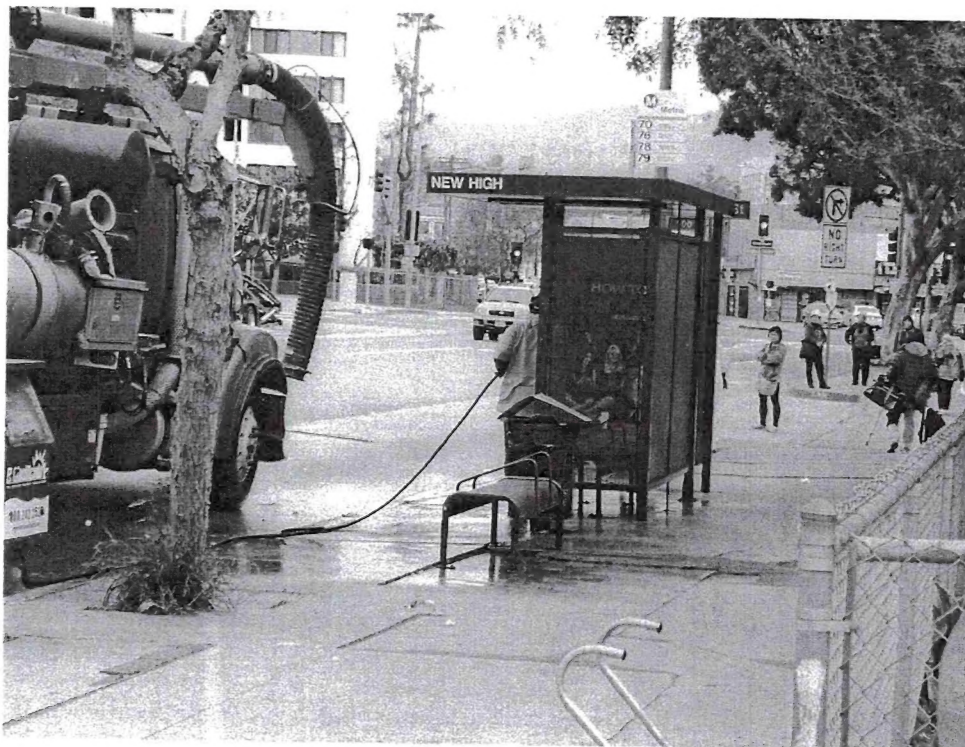


Figure 12.

Photograph was taken to show WCSD crew pressure washing the bus stop (in front of a church on Spring Street).

*Report prepared by: Chin Teo*

INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

SR. INSPECTOR'S INITIAL: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

